

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

OMB-01 DHA-02 ORM-01 EB-07 NEAE-00 PC-01 /074 W

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P R 091234Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1103

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 12174

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IN, BG

SUBJECT: INDIAN VIEWS OF BANGLADESH

REF: NEW DELHI 12044

1. IN A SEPTEMBER 8 CONVERSATION WITH WEST BENGAL CHIEF SECRETARY GUPTA, CONSUL GENERAL KORN WAS TOLD THAT INDIA HAD FEARED THAT THERE WOULD BE REPRESSION OF THE HINDU MINORITY IN BANGLADESH AND CONSEQUENTLY A FLOW OF REFUGEES INTO WEST BENGAL. GUPTA SAID THAT FORTUNATELY THIS HAS NOT OCCURRED QTE SO FAR UNQTE (EMPHASIZING THE QTE SO FAR UNQUOTE). THE SITUATION, HE SAID, WEA STILL FLUID AND INDIAN BORDER FORCES CONTINUED TO MAINTAIN THEIR VIGILANCE.

2. GUPTA AGREED WITH KORN'S OBSERVATION THAT THINGS WERE CALM IN BANGLADESH AND IT APPEARED THAT PRESIDENT MUSHTAQUE WAS IN CONTROL. GUPTA NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT THE SITUATION HAS NOT YET STABILIZED, AND IT IS NOT CERTAIN WHAT WILL HAPPEN. FOR EXAMPLE, HE SAID, IT APPEARS THAT CERTAIN ELEMENTS IN THE BANGLADESH ARMY ARE CALLING FOR THE TRIAL OF THE SEVE MAJORS (SIC) WHO WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COP AND THE KILLING OF SHEIKH MUJIB. SUPTA
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COMMENTED WITH A SMILE THAT IF THE MAJORS ARE PUT TO TRIAL MUSH-

TAQUE MIGHT BE TRIED ALSO.

3. EMBOFF HAD A CONVERSATION WITH RETIRED GENERAL NILU SEN WHO IS THE BROTHER OF THE INDIAN AMBASSADOR TO BANGLADESH, SAMAR SEN, ON SEPTEMBER 6. THE GENERAL, WHO HAS BEEN A RELIABLE SOURCE IN THE PAST, SAID THAT THE MAJORS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COUP IN BANGLADESH HAD SOME DIFFICULTY IN FINDING SOMEONE TO REPLACE MUJIB, AND FOUR OR FIVE OTHER PERSONS HAD BEEN ASKED TO BECOME PRESIDENT BEFORE MUSHTAQUE. GENERAL SEN CONCLUDED, QTE YOU CAN BET ONE THING, THIS ARRANGEMENT (MUSHTAQUE'S BEING PRESIDENT) WILL NOT LAST LONG. UNQTE.
SAXBE

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